

I

THIRSK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and
Public Health Inspector
for the year
1972



THIRSK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN

Lt. Col. M.C.W.P. Consett, J.P.
(Ex-officio Member of Health Committee)

VICE-CHAIRMAN

A.H. Gill
(Chairman of Health Committee)

COUNCILLORS

G.H. Barley (PH)	Miss V.J. Maynard (H.F.M.I) J.P.
B. Bosomworth (PH.F.I)	C.J. Megson (PH.M.I)
Mrs. B.J. Boyd (H.PH)	J.W. Ormston (F)
J.R. Bumby (H.F.I.)	S.J. Pearson (PH)
W.S. Chambers (F)	Mrs. M. Potter (H.M.I)
F.A.V. Cook (F)	T.E. Ramshay (H.PH.F.I)
Mrs. M.J. Coupe (H.PH)	H.V. Rutherford (PH.F)
H.D. Craig (H.M.)	M. Sanderson (F)
Wing Cdr. D.E. Davies, D.F.C., A.F.C., (H.F.I)	J.W. Stirke (PH)
J.C. Dickinson (H.PH)	W.B. Stonehouse (PH)
Rev. J.C. Dupuis (H.F.M.I.)	Dr. B. Thiede (F.M.I)
H.H. Dyson (PH.M)	A. Thompson (F)
J.D. Gill (F)	S.F.J. Till (F)
L.M. Greensit (F)	W.L. Townend (H.PH)
H. Harrison (F)	G.C. Turton (M.I)
E.J. Haslock (F.M.)	C.F. Walker (H.F)
W. Hunter (H.F.M.I)	Brig. J.F. Walker, D.S.O., J.P. (PH.F)

(H indicates Member of Housing Committee; PH indicates Member of Public Health Committee; F indicates Member of Finance and General Purposes Committee; M indicates Member of Market and Car Parks Committee; I indicates member of Industrial and Tourist Development Committee)

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

E. Forth

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

H. Gray, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

R.M. Sharphouse, M.A.P.H.I., A.I.H.M.

Deputy Public Health Inspector:

B. Stephenson, M.A.P.H.I. (Dip. Meat and Other Foods)

Additional Public Health Inspector:

D.H. Teale, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., (Dip. P.H.I.E.B.)

I N D E X

Page 1	List of Council Members and Staff of Public Health Department.
Page 2	Foreword by Medical Officer of Health
Page 3	Vital Statistics.
Page 4	Vital Statistics, continued.
Page 5	Causes of death.
Page 6	Notifiable Diseases.
Page 7	District Statistics and population figures.
Page 8	General Provisions of Health Services for the Bulmer area - (Sub-headings - Laboratory facilities; Dental Service; Maternity and Child Welfare; Nursing Service.)
Page 9	General Provisions of Health Services for the Bulmer area - (Sub-headings - Vaccination and Immunisation, Domestic Help Service.)
Page 10	General Provisions of Health Services for the Bulmer area - (Sub-headings - Chiropody; Care and After Care; Family Planning; Routine Screening.)
Page 11	General Provisions of Health Services for the Bulmer area - (Sub-heading - Child Minding and the Pre-School Child)
Page 12	Foreword by Public Health Inspector.
Page 13	Water Supplies.
Page 14	Dwellings and population served by water mains.
Page 15	Housing.
Page 16	Housing, continued.
Page 17	Housing - Statement A.
Page 18	Housing - Statement B.
Page 19	Housing - Statement C.
Page 20	Food Hygiene; Poultry Inspection.
Page 21	Meat Inspection.
Page 22	Ice-cream; Milk; Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.
Page 23	Sewerage.
Page 24	Sewerage - present state as regards schemes.
Page 25	Public Cleansing.
Page 26	Public Swimming Baths; Public Conveniences; Mortuary; Common Lodging Houses; Caravans; Petroleum.
Page 27	Nuisances; Building Regulations.
Page 28	Rodent Control.
Page 29	Factories (prescribed particulars).
Page 30	Schedule of Factories.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1972

To: The Chairman and Members of Thirsk Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me pleasure to present to you this report which, in view of the reorganisation about to take place, is likely to be my last one to this Council. All staff employed in the health services, including myself, will become employees of the new bodies to be set up. The Area Health Authority which is responsible for services covering the same geographical area as the new County Council will provide medical advice to the new County and District Councils and it is hoped that under new management it will be to all intents and purposes "business as usual" with some person, not necessarily myself, acting as "proper officer" to the new District of Hambleton.

May I say, if this be the last opportunity I shall have to say officially, how happy I have been with the co-operation of your other officials and with yourselves.

As I have outlined in previous reports, there has been a tremendous improvement in environmental circumstances in the area during the time I have been working in the area, yet much progress remains to be achieved, particularly in housing and sewerage. It is my hope that the new enlarged district will very quickly pick up the torch and keep up the momentum of improvement. A larger authority with greater resources should be able to make more rapid strides.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GRAY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS - 1972 THIRSK RURAL DISTRICT

		Local Authority Area			England and Wales (total)
		Males	Females	Total	
<u>Estimated mid-year home population</u>		-	-	14,730	49,028,900
<u>Live Births</u>	Total	104	126	230	725,405
	Legitimate	96	121	217	662,907
	Illegitimate	8	5	13	62,498
<u>Stillbirths</u>					
	Total	-	4	4	8,794
	Legitimate	-	4	4	7,846
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	948
<u>Total live and stillbirths</u>					
	Total	104	130	234	734,199
	Legitimate	96	125	221	670,753
	Illegitimate	8	5	13	63,446
<u>Death of Infants</u>					
<u>Under 1 year of age</u>	Total	1	3	4	12,494
	Legitimate	1	3	4	11,177
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,317
<u>Under 4 weeks of age</u>					
	Total	-	1	1	8,373
	Legitimate	-	1	1	7,503
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	870
<u>Under 1 week of age</u>					
	Total	-	1	1	7,142
	Legitimate	-	1	1	6,365
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	777
<u>Deaths - all ages</u>		92	103	195	591,907

OFFICE OF POPULATION CENSUSES AND SURVEYS
GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, TITCHFIELD

	Local Authority Area	England and Wales
	-	-
<u>Live birth rates, etc.</u>		
Live births per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	15.6	14.8
Area comparability factor	1.04	1.00
Local Adjusted rate	16.2	14.8
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.10	1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	6	9
<u>Stillbirth rate</u>		
Stillbirths per 1,000 total live and still births	17	12
<u>Infant Mortality Rates</u>		
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	17	17
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	18	17
Death of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	21
<u>Neonatal Mortality Rate</u>		
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	4	12
<u>Early Neonatal mortality rate</u>		
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	4	10
<u>Perinatal mortality rate</u>		
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births	21	22
<u>Death rates, etc. - all ages</u>		
Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	13.2	12.1
Area comparability factor	1.00	1.00
Local adjusted rate	13.2	12.1
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.09	1.00

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THIRSK RURAL DISTRICT

1972

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1
2. Malignant neoplasm - stomach	1	2
3. " " - intestine	-	2
4. " " - lung, bronchus	11	2
5. " " - breast	-	3
6. " " - uterus	-	1
7. Leukaemia	1	-
8. Other malignant neoplasms	2	8
9. Benign and unspecified neoplasms	1	-
10. Diabetes mellitus	-	2
11. Avitaminoses, etc.	-	1
12. Other endocrine etc. diseases	1	-
13. Mental disorders	1	-
14. Other diseases of nervous system	-	1
15. Chronic rheumatic heart disease	2	1
16. Hypertensive disease	1	3
17. Ischaemic heart disease	30	18
18. Other forms of heart disease	10	17
19. Cerebrovascular disease	11	17
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	1	3
21. Pneumonia	7	6
22. Bronchitis and emphysema	4	2
23. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1
24. Cirrhosis of liver	1	-
25. Other diseases of digestive system	1	2
26. Other diseases, genito-urinary system	1	1
27. Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	-	1
28. Congenital anomalies	1	-
29. Other causes of perinatal mortality	-	1
30. Symptoms and ill defined conditions	2	4
31. Motor vehicle accidents	1	-
32. All other accidents	-	1
33. Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	2
	<hr/> 92	<hr/> 103 <hr/>

Notifiable Diseases

The following cases were notified :-

	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Measles	160	3	81
Scarlet Fever	11	7	5
Food poisoning.. .. .	1	-	-
Infective Jaundice	1	-	1
Dysentery	3	4	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	-	1
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	1	-

From the pattern of notification of measles in which alternate years appear to have a high incidence, it would seem that the number of children vaccinated in the district fall short of that required to prevent this cycle of infection from recurring. The advantages to be gained in any individual infant from measles vaccination so far outweigh the disadvantage including an attack of measles that it is a very worthwhile procedure.

DISTRICT STATISTICS

Area of District	71,650 acres
Estimated population mid-1972	14,730
Number of houses - Non-Council	4,685
- Council	919
- Total	5,604
Rateable Value	£482,691
Product of a New Penny rate	£4,825

Population Figures

Ainderby Quernhow	60	Langthorpe	360
Bagby	327	Maunby	104
Balk	56	Milby	67
Birdforth	24	Newby Wiske	335
Boltby	126	Newsham	173
Carlton Miniott	1030	Norton-le-Clay	611
Catton	45	North Kilvington	39
Cowesby	49	Pickhill	271
Dalton	340	Sandhutton	192
Ellenthorpe	30	Sessay	225
Eldmire-w-Crakehill	31	Sinderby	80
Fawdington	11	Skipton	72
Felixkirk	91	South Kilvington	230
Holme	50	South Otterington	228
Hood Grange	9	Sowerby	3120
Howe	38	Sutton	250
Humberton	59	Thirkleby	221
Hutton Sessay	72	Thirlby	80
Kepwick	79	Thirsk	3005
Kilburn	218	Thornbrough	11
Kirby Hill	340	Thornton Bridge	41
Kirby Knowle	48	Thornton-le-Moor	301
Kirby Wiske	102	Thornton-le-Street	102
Knayton-w-Brawith	263	Topcliffe	1048
		Upsall	79

HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL

Day to day administration of these functions of the Local Health Authority (County Council) within the boundaries of the Rural Districts of Flaxton, Easingwold, Thirsk and Wath is centred in the Area Health Office at Easingwold. The office is situated in the New Health Centre.

Reorganisation of Local Government boundaries in 1974 will divide the area three ways. The Flaxton R.D. joins with other districts to the north and east of York, Easingwold and Thirsk join other authorities to the north, and Wath together with the detached part of Thirsk R.D. join with other authorities to the west centred on Harrogate. Fortunately the new Area Health Board which takes over health functions from the North Riding County Council does not further separate the area, but when this area is sub-divided into districts which will be centred upon District General Hospitals, these districts will not coincide in boundaries with the local authority districts. The difficulties which these administrative changes entail will be considerable, and it will no doubt take a considerable time before the benefits expected from these changes will become apparent.

At the present time the area has a population of 63,040, half concentrated in the southern part adjacent to York, and remainder fairly uniformly spread over some 400 sq. miles, with smaller concentration in the market towns of Easingwold and Thirsk. Your Medical Officer of Health holds appointments with the four district councils, and with the County Council in duties with the Health and Education.

Laboratory Facilities. - these are provided, following closure of the Public Health Laboratories at Northallerton by the Friarage Hospital at Northallerton, the laboratory at York County Hospital, and at Public Health Laboratories at some distance.

Dental Service. - One full-time and one part-time dentists are employed, working in dental clinics in three large schools and in the Thirsk Clinic. A well equipped mobile clinic is also used. In the new Health Centre at Wigginton a dental surgery is to be provided, but the financial arrangements which at present exist seem to preclude the use of dental facilities in Health Centres by the general public and private dentists. This is a pity as one can visualise in the future that the health centres should be the centres at which all primary care is available.

Maternity and Child Welfare. - There was a fall in live births from 982 to 933, and the children born in hospital remains at 94 - 95%. Stillbirths at 17 are approximately 40% higher than the Country average of which half were due to prematurity, a feature which is regularly found in this locality, and upon which I have previously commented.

Attendances at Infant Welfare Clinics remained unchanged again at 2566 (2694 children attended in 1971). The Health Visiting staffs are becoming orientated into developmental pediatrics which should enable them to give a more comprehensive service to children with special needs.

Relaxation and Mothercraft classes show a continuing increase in attendance, these are organised by both Health Visitor's and Midwives.

The Health Visitor's have contributed to the various Health Education Programmes presented by the County Health Education Officer in school, clinics, and the clubs etc. The subjects have been smoking, diet, dental health and clean food.

Nursing Service. - In line with the recommendation of the Payston report, Mrs. Aston has been appointed as Area Nursing Officer, and I am indebted to her for this section of this report.

The following tables show staff employed at the year end.

	<u>Full-time</u>	<u>Part-time</u>
Health Visitors	10	2
Generalised Duties	7	-
Combined Duties	8	1
Midwives	-	-
Home Nurses	2	1

One combined-duties nurse was appointed during the year as holiday relief and the nurse employed for mobile clinic duties is able to give some of her time to District Nursing. Gradual progress is being made to further attachment of nurses and health visitors to General Practitioners and liaison with adjoining authorities is taking place to try to surmount the difficulties of attachment in the boundary areas. Midwives in the Thirsk and Flaxton areas are taking part in the G.P. Maternity Units early discharge scheme in Northallerton and Fulford Maternity Hospitals.

Vaccination and Immunisation.- Again there has been no change in the order of recommended procedures, nor of the ages at which these are normally carried out, and the figures for the past 3 years give a reliable indication of the acceptance of the various immunisations of children under 16.

	<u>1970</u>		<u>1971</u>		<u>1972</u>	
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>
Diphtheria	1025	934	965	956	950	796
Whooping Cough	1025	932	965	195	931	129
Tetanus	1364	1009	1260	1260	1095	1133
Poliomyelitis	1046	807	951	1037	959	771
Measles	1310	-	1003	-	892	-
Rubella						
- (Females only)	471	-	636	-	361	-

There were 982 live births in 1971 and 933 in 1972, and it can readily be seen that a very high proportion of children are immunised as infants against diphtheria, whooping-cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis, whilst the proportion vaccinated against measles is almost as excellent.

There is scope for rethinking of the requirements made by countries of travellers, particularly holidaymakers. A chaotic situation recently arose following one or two recent smallpox cases when thousands of holidaymakers had to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated before proceeding abroad. Many would have been quite ill, and as a guarantee that the individual was not in fact liable to be incubating smallpox, a certificate of revaccination carried out the day before setting off is quite worthless.

All our Ambulance staff are revaccinated annually, but the recommendation that other health workers should be regularly revaccinated is, I fear not universally complied with.

Domestic Help Service. - This department continued to operate this service on behalf of the Social Services department during the year and again the period showed a considerable expansion of this. Cases attended rose from 247 in 1971 to 322, and the hours worked from 48,090 to 53,242. The increase seems to be at 10% each year and may well rise considerably further before reaching a steady level. Towards the end of the year the Social Services department made arrangements to take over the service in accordance with legislation, and in anticipation of the reorganisation of 1974. This allowed the staff in the area office to undertake a reorganisation of the school health service arrangements, again in anticipation of reorganisation.

Chiropody Service. - We were fortunate in having an increase in staff in 1972 in so far as two full-time chiropodists were employed. With the New Health Centre at Easingwold becoming available it was possible to concentrate work here for the surrounding district but many of the premises used are inadequate, and because the area is so scattered and ill served by transport, a considerable number of patients are treated at home. Some use is made of voluntary transport, and for a few old people the visit to the chiropody clinic, assisted by their volunteer is an event greatly enjoyed. Our thanks are due to all those who assist so nobly.

Care and After Care. - The scheme provided by the County Council to provide nursing equipment continues to increase. Nursing staff and patients are able to have on temporary loan such items as.- back rests, wheel chairs, walking frames, ripple beds etc. Incontinence pads and liners are available for incontinent patients.

The Social Services and Ministry of Pensions also provide these items where they are classed as long term loan. There is a good liaison between these departments thus providing and ensuring a good aftercare service.

Family Planning. - operated directly as a County Council service 12 sessions each month at Huntington, Easingwold and Thirsk. A number of North Riding residents continue to attend the York clinic for which a financial contribution is made. The sessions are "open" in that patients do not need to be referred, although many persons attend as a result of information given by midwives, nurses and health visitors.

No charge is made for examination and advice, and supplies are issued free to medical cases, social cases i.e. where hardship would result except for the practise of family limitations, and those in receipt of supplementary benefits.

The future of the service is not at present clear as recent parliamentary decision brings the family planning service into the NHS from April, 1974.

Recently a limited domiciliary service has been inaugurated for those women who could not reasonably be expected to attend at a fixed centre.

Routine Screening. - All babies are tested for phenylketonuria either in Hospital before discharge home or shortly afterwards by our own nursing staff.

Cervical Cytology is carried out for the early detection of cancer of the womb either by family doctors, at sessions of family planning clinics, or at special sessions held in our clinics.

Health Visiting staff have had training in screening of young children and one of their responsibilities is to review the progress of infants at 3, 6, 10, 18 months and 3 years old. Should any child fail to show normal development of attainment appropriate to the age attained he is referred for more detailed consideration by the Medical Officer, and if necessary at one of the special assessment services at hospital.

Early treatment of defects can then be arranged and if necessary special arrangements for education is made.

During school life a similar scheme has been commenced whereby in place of the four routine examinations by a doctor, a first examination is carried out, and thereafter examination is decided upon as a result of questionnaire completed at 8 years, 12+ and 15 by parents, special referrals by teachers, or as a result of failure of vision and hearing tests carried out just prior to these ages. At the expense of some additional clerical time expanded on these arrangements, more medical time will be devoted to consideration and re-examination of those children who fall below a health norm physically and psychologically.

Child Minding and the Pre School Child. - This service was continued in 1972 on the same agency basis as the Domestic Help Service, and was handed over shortly after the year end to the Social Services Department. The Department of Education and Science are now committed to an extension of the nursery school system which has remained static since the last war and one can look forward to some reduction of the age at which children are able to commence school. It is my opinion that supervision of the playgroup of which there is a number in the area should have gone to the Education Department rather than to the Social Services who are fully stretched in the field of 'welfare' in all its ramifications.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1972

To: the Chairman and Members of Thirsk Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure to present a report on the work done by the Council in carrying out its duties as Public Health Authority during the year ending December, 1972.

The Public Health Committee's main deliberations were to do with sewerage. Since the War there has been continuous progress - the need for schemes has been considered, engineering details prepared, tender formalities dealt with, and finally work has started. The whole process calling for a vast amount of work both in and out of Committee.

One major scheme remains to be done, and some small villages still need sewerage, but it is true to say that sewage will soon be no longer a major issue.

On housing an important scheme was put in hand, comparable in its likely effect on the town with the 'old Norby' clearance in the immediate post-war years. The Gillings Yard area is by far the biggest site of dereliction in the district, and if the ambitious scheme under consideration comes to maturity, it will be of considerable benefit not only to the old people of Thirsk, but to the town itself.

The Council's Housing Committee is also the body responsible for looking after the houses of over one-fifth of the district population, a commitment producing problems of management on a large scale. What appear to be minor complaints from tenants often result in Council decisions of no small consequence.

As this will be my last 'Annual Report', I may be allowed some personal reminiscences from the 1935 era.

Even then the Council rightly regarded itself as progressive. It operated a limited cleansing service with a single vehicle (albeit only a three-wheeler), periodically emptied cesspools and sewage tanks, employing a horse-drawn tanker with a manually operated pump. It also operated a refuse incinerator, a system of disposal which to my mind is far preferable to the present day indiscriminate dumping of foul material in holes in the ground.

If the Council was not able for financial reasons to provide sewage schemes, it did what it could to mitigate the ill-effects of the small building down the garden by providing free packets or bottles (at the rate-payers choice) of disinfectant.

Re-organisation is impending. The Thirsk Rural District Council like other small authorities, will disappear. Why, no one seems to know. However, no doubt re-organisation in due course will be presented as a major government achievement. It is not apparent how the colossal amount of work will be dealt with by the new authority, which will not only be deprived of a considerable number of long serving officers, but will be made up of members who cannot possibly have a personal knowledge of their widespread district.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R.M. SHARPHOUSE,

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

WATER

All main supplies were under the control of the Ryedale Joint Water Board, the major mains network being fed from Ryedale Joint Water Board sources outside the area, and by the Képwick springs.

Weekly samples of the public supplies failed to produce evidence that the water supplied to the majority of the population is at all doubtful in quality.

The Health department collected 41 samples from 'public' sources and 9 from private supplies, all being submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Northallerton.

Formerly the Thirsk area was served by a mixed supply from sources at Boltby and Kepwick and enjoyed the benefits of water classified as moderately hard. The water supply to this area at present is extremely hard, as one would expect from underground sources of supply, the Boltby reservoir being kept as a stand-by.

The tabular statement on the following page is required annually by the Department of Health and Social Security. The information it provides has long ceased to have any significance from a health point of view; and the Council may bring this fact to the notice of the Department.

A simple statement showing the number of houses supplied from public mains and from other sources would be of more use.

I personally consider, as suggested in previous reports, that if there is a cause for concern at the present time with water supplies it is with sources not under control of the authorities.

Sporadic sampling of such supplies still brings to light cases of gross pollution and whereas there may be no alternative to the privately controlled supply at remote houses, it is suggested that the water system feeding a group of properties is the one most likely to lack the proper and regular supervision essential for a safe water supply.

Dwellings and population served by water mains

Parish	<u>Direct to Houses</u>		<u>By Standpipes</u>	
	Houses	Approx. popul.	Houses	Approx. popul.
Ainderby Quernhow	21	60	-	-
Bagby	141	327	-	-
Balk	18	56	-	-
Birdforth	9	24	-	-
Boltby	51	126	-	-
Carlton Miniott	226	1031	-	-
Catton	19	45	-	-
Cowesby	27	49	-	-
Dalton	115	340	-	-
Ellenthorpe	11	30	-	-
Eldmire-w-Crakehill	10	31	-	-
Fawdington	4	11	-	-
Felixkirk	32	91	-	-
Holme	17	50	1	1
Howe	13	38	-	-
Humberton	20	59	-	-
Hutton Sessay	28	72	-	-
Kepwick	35	79	-	-
Kilburn	90	218	-	-
Kirby Hill	15	340	-	-
Kirby Knowle	25	48	-	-
Kirby Wiske	49	102	-	-
Knayton-w-Brawith	110	263	-	-
Langthorpe	159	360	-	-
Maunby	47	104	-	-
Milby	24	67	-	-
Newby Wiske	78	335	-	-
Newsham-w-Breckenbrough	41	173	-	-
Norton-le-Clay	174	611	-	-
North Kilvington	12	39	-	-
Pickhill-w-Roxby	95	271	-	-
Sandhutton	79	192	-	-
Sessay	83	225	-	-
Sinderby	32	80	-	-
Skipton	25	72	-	-
South Kilvington	85	230	-	-
South Otterington	100	228	1	1
Sowerby	1206	3120	-	-
Sutton-u-Whitestonecliffe	97	250	-	-
Thirkleby	86	221	-	-
Thirlby	29	80	-	-
Thirsk	1102	3005	-	-
Thornbrough	4	11	-	-
Thornton Bridge	11	41	-	-
Thornton-le-Moor	112	301	-	-
Thornton-le-Street	47	102	-	-
Topcliffe	302	1048	-	-
Upsall	23	79	-	-

HOUSING

Work proceeded steadily on the site at Dalton and by the end of the year a further 11 houses were added to the Council's stock.

No difficulty has been experienced in letting these houses and completion of the site will provide Dalton with one of the largest of the village estates, with houses of modern design.

As the greatest need for dwellings was for old people, the Council surveyed the area with a view to providing more bungalows. An area of land lying north of Thirsk market place and largely derelict was investigated and finally the Planning Authority was persuaded that building on this site was a feasible proposition. The restricted outlook from this particular piece of land suggested the ideal type of development would be in blocks of more than one storey, and at the time of preparing this report the scheme is being proceeded with in detail.

Pressure was applied by the Department of the Environment housing section to persuade the Council to carry out improvements to some of the older houses. It was suggested that the dwellings erected immediately after the War with downstairs bathrooms were unsatisfactory and should be 'modernised' with grant aid. Whereas the Council accepted the fact that some of the lay-outs in question were not convenient by modern standards they were not completely satisfied that a large expenditure and inconvenience to tenants was entirely justified. A volte face by the Department then precluded schemes for post-war houses, fortunately before much work had been done.

With the increase of improvement grants to 75% the number of applications increased considerably and resulted in much extra work for the department. It is my personal opinion that where expenditure exceeds 50% of the cost of a new house, it is better that the building is demolished rather than resurrected.

The Waterside/The Green General Improvement Area progressed very slowly, largely because of land acquisition difficulties.

Category	Number
(a) Number of applicants occupying houses :-	
(i) Condemned as unfit	2
(ii) Overcrowding cases	-
(iii) Court Orders in force	-
(iv) Terminate service tenancies	-
(v) Others	126
(b) Number of applicants sharing houses :-	
(i) With relatives	31
(ii) Elsewhere	-
(c) Number of applicants for pensioners bungalows :-	
(i) With houses	6
(ii) Sharing houses	3
(iii) Others	65

Repairs and maintenance of the Council's 919 houses was partly carried out by direct labour and partly by private contractors.

Of a total of 2,128 repairs incidents some 1,924 were dealt with by direct labour. In addition 58 houses were painted by our own workmen.

As a matter of interest the repairs carried out by contractors during the year could be placed in the following broad categories:-

Joiner - 9	Electrician - 160	Gas Fitter - 35
------------	-------------------	-----------------

Statement "A" with this section of the report shows the disposition of Council houses throughout the area, the type of houses and the date of completion.

Statement "B" shows in tabular form the results of action taken in regard to unfit houses.

Statement "C" shows the position as regards discretionary and standard grants.

Statement A

<u>Council Houses</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bedrooms</u>			<u>Bung</u>	<u>Built</u>
		<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>		
Ainderby Quernhow	10	3	2 2	1	2	P.W. 51 70
Carlton Miniott	34		6 20	2	6	51 67
Dalton	37		9 8 11	3	6	55 70 72
Kilburn	4		3	1		49
Kirby Hill	22		6 8	2	6	50 70
Knayton	6		2 4			49 60
Langthorpe	24		10 4	6	4	P.W. 50 58
Newby Wiske	5	1	4			P.W.
Pickhill	6		5	1		53
Sandhutton	8		4 4			62 66
Sessay	4		3	1		53
South Kilvington	8		4 4			P.W. 61
South Otterington	8		2 4	2		P.W. 49
Sowerby	141	20 4	38 9 10 4	20 3 1 9	12 4 7	P.W. 46 52 53 69
Thirkleby	4		3	1		51
Thirsk	533	12 8 26 12 2 2 10 5 8 12	42 14 32 4 41 31 15 1 52 22 9	14 3 16 11 9 3 4 2 9	6 5 16 4 5 5 4 38 20 8	48 52 53 54 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 67 69 71
Thornton-le-Moor	9		6 3			49 60
Topcliffe	56	2 10	8 6 3 13	1 3	10	P.W. 46 53 55 67
	919	137	495	119	168	

Statement B

(1) Repair - Housing and Public Health Acts

Number of houses rendered fit after service of notices :-

	Sections 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act 1957		Public Health and similar local Acts	
	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
(a) By owner	9	-	12	-
(b) By local authority	-	-	-	-
	9	-	12	-

(2) Beyond Repair - Housing Act, 1957

Number of (a) undertakings accepted (section 16) 2
 (b) closing orders made (section 17) 3
 (c) demolition orders made (section 17).. .. -
 (d) closing orders made (section 18) -
 (e) closing orders determined (section 27) -
 (f) closing orders revoked and demolition
 orders substituted (section 28) -
 (g) houses demolished following
 demolition orders -

(3) Clearance areas

Represented during year -

(a) number of areas -
 (b) houses unfit for human habitation -
 (c) houses included by reasons of bad
 arrangement, etc. -
 (d) houses on land acquired under 43(2) -
 (e) number of people to be displaced -
 - Individuals -
 - Families -

Action taken during the year -

(a) houses demolished by local authorities
 or owners -
 - Unfit -
 - Others 3
 (b) number of people displaced -
 - Individuals -
 - Families -

Statement C

Improvement Grants

1) Number of applications received	166
2) Number of applications approved	158
3) Number of applications refused	8
4) Number of dwellings improved	89
5) Amount paid in grants	£59,653
6) Average grant per house	£670

Comparison with previous years :-

	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Number Approved	36	60	37	21	30	30	31
Amount of Grant	£8,097	£17,677	£9,601	£5,498	£7,458	£7,855	£7,780

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Number Approved	22	18	15	11	33	38	89
Amount of Grant	£9,099	£6,078	£5,025	£2,539	£15,152	£20,224	£59,653

Standard Grants

1) Number of applications received	5
2) Number of applications approved	5
3) Number of applications refused	-
4) Number of dwellings improved	11
5) Amount paid in grants	£2,653
6) Average grant per house	£241
7) Amenities provided (a) fixed bath	9
(b) shower	-
(c) wash hand basin	7
(d) hot water supply	9
(e) water closet within dwelling	11
(f) sink	6

FOOD HYGIENE

The number of premises in this area concerned with the preparation, treatment or storage of food is as follows :-

Grocers shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Wet fish shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Fried fish shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Cafes and Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Licensed premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Ice-cream manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Market stalls (approx.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Mobile shops (approx.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Poultry processing factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Routine supervision of these premises was carried out as far as possible, the results of the inspections being as follows :-

Number of inspections made	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64
Number of premises found not to comply	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Number of defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Number remedied	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11

Poultry Inspection

There are three poultry 'processing' factories in the area, two of which concentrate on turkeys. At one of these premises the product is 'rough plucked', eviscerating not being carried out locally.

Something like 99% of the total production of poultry in the area comes from the Dalton factory of the Ross Poultry Company Limited which deals with both 'broilers' and turkeys.

The tabular statement asked for in Circular 1/68 is below :-

(a) number of poultry processing premises within the district	3
(b) number of visits to these premises	.. .. .. 28
(c) total number of birds processed during the year	.. .. 9,500,000
(d) types of birds processed - e.g. turkeys, broilers, hens and cocks.	
(e) percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption	.. 0.18%
(f) weight of poultry condemned (by officials) as unfit for human consumption	.. .. .. Nil

MEAT INSPECTION

A complete inspection service was carried out at the four slaughterhouses within the area, the results being shown in the table.

					Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	..	..	..	..	588	1	4	1339	736
Number <u>not</u> inspected		..	..	..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>									
Whole carcasses condemned	..	..	..		2	Nil	Nil	Nil	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned		..	..	..	61	Nil	Nil	21	10
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>									
Whole carcasses condemned	..	..	..		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned		..	..	..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	11
<u>Cysticerci</u>									
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned		..	..	..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to refrigeration					Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	..				Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Unsound food surrendered or condemned :-

								Cwt.	Lbs.
1) Meat at slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	71
2) Meat at school canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	17½
3) Meat at retail shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
4) Cooked meat and meat products		..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
5) Canned meats	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	13
6) Other canned foods	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	4
7) Fish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
8) Fruit and vegetables	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
9) Other foods	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	30
10) Bacon in retail shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	47
								15	70½

ICE-CREAM

The Council has a duty to keep a register of premises manufacturing or selling ice-cream.

There is only one manufacturer in the area, where the ice-cream is produced by the 'hot-mix' method.

There are also forty-six vendors of pre-packed ice-cream.

MILK

The milk supplied in the area is a bottled designated milk, chiefly produced outside the area and delivered daily by lorry to the respective dealers' premises, the empty bottles being returned for cleansing.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Progress was made on the survey of premises covered by the Act and the results, in tabular form, are as follows :-

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of premises receiving a general inspection
Offices	-	47	4
Retail shops	1	59	15
Wholesale shops, warehouses ..	-	2	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ..	-	13	7
Fuel storage depots	-	1	-
	1	122	26

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises under the Act 28

Analysis of Contraventions

Section	Number of Contraventions	Section	Number of Contraventions
4	Cleanliness 13	15	Eating facilities -
5	Overcrowding -	16	Floors, passage and stairs 3
6	Temperature 1	17	Fencing exposed parts of machinery -
7	Ventilation -	18	Protection of young persons working at dangerous machinery -
8	Lighting 1	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery -
9	Sanitary conveniences 3	23	Prohibition of heavy work -
10	Washing facilities 4	24	First Aid 12
11	Supply of drinking water -		
12	Clothing accommodation -		
13	Sitting facilities -		
14	Seats (Sedentary Workers) -		

SEWERAGE

The scheme for the village of Knayton was completed during the year, the sewage being pumped to the Borrowby works for treatment.

The Sutton and Thirlby scheme was commenced during the year. The Council wisely decided to re-lay the existing sewer in conjunction with the NRCC, as this will remain in use to take surface water from highways, roofs, paved areas, etc.

The northwest regional scheme covering the villages of Maunby, South Otterington, Kirby Wiske and possibly Thornton-le-Moor, was in an advanced design stage but progress was delayed because of difficulty in acquiring certain sites for pumphouses.

At Eldmire the Pasveer ditch continued to give an inconsistent performance, thought to be due to the very strong effluent from the poultry by-products plant. The new owners of the factory were co-operative in installing a pre-treatment plant at a considerable expense so that the strength of the effluent discharged to the Council's system was in keeping with the trade effluent agreement.

The Council decided that schemes for the villages of Cowesby and Upsall should receive priority because of pollution of ditches near to dwellings and the Council's Consultant Engineer submitted schemes for consideration.

In the absence of advice from a higher level a local authority must decide on the type of disposal plant to be installed. It is not easy to decide between conventional works and the many proprietary treatment plants at present on the market, and a local authority is faced with an expensive trial and error process. One would have thought in this day and age that a national advisory organisation would have been able to decide which was the right type of plant to go for in any particular situation.

The present state as regards schemes in the various villages in the area is as follows :-

Schemes already provided	Existing facilities considered satisfactory for the time being	Sewerage facilities required
Thirsk	Birdforth	Boltby
Sowerby	Kepwick	Cowesby
Carlton Miniott	Thornton Bridge	Felixkirk
Sandhutton	Thornton-le-Street	Hutton Sessay
Kilvington	Balk	* Kirby Wiske
Catton	Newsham	* Maunby
Howe		* Newby Wiske
Kirby Knowle		* Norton-le-Clay
Bagby		Skipton
Ainderby Quernhow		* South Otterington
Holme		+ Sutton
Pickhill		* Thirkleby
Sinderby		+ Thirlby
Kirby Hill		* Thornton-le-Moor
Langthorpe		Upsall
Dalton		
Sessay		
Topcliffe		
Kilburn		* Villages where schemes are in an advanced state of preparation.
Knayton		+ Scheme under construction

Approximate populations served ;-

(a)	(b)	(c)
10,600	366	2,740

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Council continued to give a complete refuse collection service throughout its area, dustbins being emptied weekly, apart from at a few outlying properties, and the few remaining ashpits and middens were dealt with monthly.

At the beginning of the year the old 'ballast' hole adjoining the main railway line was still in use as a refuse tip, and at that time an alternative site was not available. The Council, however, was able to acquire some 14 acres of land adjoining the main sewage works at Sowerby. This land had been excavated by the by-pass contractors as a 'borrow pit' and provided an ideal tip of sufficient capacity to serve the rural area for some years.

Unfortunately, though from the convenience point of view the site was ideal, there was the problem of controlling sub-soil water, which obviously could carry polluting materials from the refuse tip into nearby Cod Beck.

Something like 6,000 tons of household refuse are collected annually, apart from trade refuse collected separately.

The Council's vehicles at the year end used mainly for refuse collection were as follows, an average of twenty-two drivers and loaders being employed on this work.

- 3 Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatics
- 1 Dennis Paxit
- 1 Dennis side-loader (10 cubic yards)
- 2 - 1,000 gallon 'Yorkshire' cesspool emptiers
- 2 Shelvoke and Drewry 'fore-and-aft' tippers (taken from service at the year end as obsolete - braking systems not to regulations)

The York Road Depot was extended during the year to provide under-cover storage for all vehicles.

The servicing and overhaul facilities at this depot are a valuable asset and probably without comparison in any such district.

A limited 'paper sack' system was in operation during the year.

Remote farmsteads have always presented a collection problem, and the running of large vehicles over long lengths of farm road is an uneconomical exercise.

Paper sack containers not only permit collection by a light van, but allow more latitude in intervals between collection, a very big advantage in the winter months.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

The Thirsk District baths, under the management of a voluntary body, were kept under supervision as far as health aspects were concerned.

Apart from a few complaints of 'strong chlorination' there was no cause for concern, and the Council can be assured that the baths are efficiently operated and without risk to public health.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Though coin receipts are not a reliable method of estimating the number of persons using the conveniences, they provide an interesting comparison with previous years -

1965	-	117,316
1966	-	112,274
1967	-	106,080
1968	-	104,211
1969	-	85,440
1970	-	100,320
1971	-	76,352
1972	-	57,886

MORTUARY

The register shows that sixty-three bodies in all were accommodated during the twelve months.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered common lodging houses in the area.

CARAVANS

The register shows that licences are in force in respect of 79 residential vans and 691 holiday vans.

PETROLEUM

The Council issued 72 licences for the storage of 'petroleum' during the year.

NUISANCES

Without doubt most of the complaints during the year were of objectionable smells, either caused by the 'new' industries or agricultural processes.

The erection of large buildings for the rearing of animals or poultry in proximity to dwellings caused some concern. The exemptions allowed by planning legislation are surely out of step with modern factory farming, an opinion which is held by the planning authorities themselves.

The fouling of footpaths by dogs continued unabated, despite the byelaws, surely calling for drastic action at a national level.

Some private roads in the town area are in a deplorable condition. The legislation on the taking over and repair of private streets is unhelpful.

BUILDING REGULATIONS

During the year 651 plans were submitted to the Council, 119 of which were for new houses.

The examination of plans unless submitted to the Consultant Engineer where extensive drainage or structural work is involved, is carried out by the department, as also is the inspection of work in progress.

The powers to enforce compliance with the Building Regulations rests with the Council, but it is quite apparent that only a very superficial control can be exercised, taking into account other duties and the responsibility for 'Clerk of Works' supervision of the Council's own sites in progress.

The government backed House Builders Registration Scheme was brought into being to safeguard house purchasers, and where applicable this department co-operates with the building inspectors concerned.

RODENT CONTROL

The report on the year's work by the Council's Rodent Operative is given in tabular form :-

Property	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	4812	792
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	117	24
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	43	24
(ii) Mice	74	-
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.	149	81
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	38	37
(ii) Mice	111	44

The Council's full-time Rodent Operator undertakes free treatment against rats and mice at domestic buildings, and on farm and industrial premises at agreed rates.

Other forms of vermin are dealt with on complaint.

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written notices	Prosecutions
i. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	32	11	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	63	1	-	-
iii. Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.	-	-	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more 'cases').

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	3	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences :-					
(a) Insufficient ..	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	1	1	-	-	-
	4	4	-	-	-

Schedule of Factories

<u>Industry</u>											<u>Number</u>
Agricultural Machinery .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Blacksmiths .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Bakeries .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Boot and Shoe Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Burling and Mending .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Builders and Joiners .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Egg Grading .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Electrical Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Grass Drying .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Laundries .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Motor Vehicle Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Millers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Poultry Processors .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Plumbers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Printers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Sawmills .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Scrap dealers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Slaughterhouses .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Tailoring .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tanneries .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Synthetics (weavers) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

86
